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Email: news@arubatoday.com Website: www.arubatoday.com Thursday, February 5, 2009

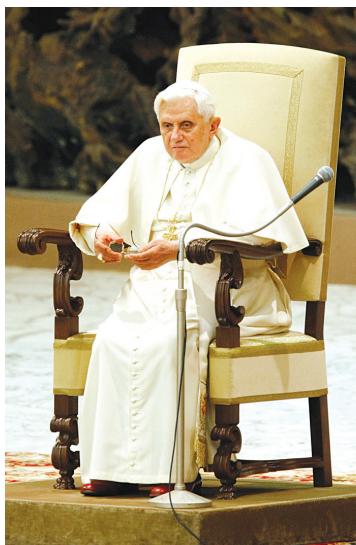


Price of a barrel
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INSIDE TODAY
WORLD NEWS

PAPAL DENIAL



Pope Benedict XVI conducts the weekly general audience in Pope Paul VI hall, at the Vatican, Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009. German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Tuesday called on Pope Benedict XVI to make a "very clear" rejection of Holocaust denials after the Vatican's rehabilitation of a former bishop who questioned whether 6 million Jews were gassed by the Nazis.

See INTERNATIONAL NEWS

SPORTS NEWS

12000 AND RISING



Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James dunks against the Toronto Raptors during the first quarter of an NBA basketball game Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2009, in Cleveland.

See Sports Today

The former Jamaica Me Crazy has perfect Palm Beach location
Kool Runnings Restaurant opens at South Beach Center



By Jan Falcone
Special to Aruba Today

Now open in Palm Beach! Aruba's only authentic Jamaican cuisine restaurant is now in the heart of South Beach Center, behind Segafredo and within walking distance to all of the high-rise hotels. This lively brand new mall is the perfect location for Kook Runnings, which will be the highlight of your vacation! The restaurant offers its patrons a comfortable place for a casual lunch or dinner, complete with all of the most famous of Jamaican specialties, including Red Stripe and a complete selection of Jamaica-made beer and beverages such as their

homemade ginger beer, non-alcoholic, very tasty, healthy – and popular throughout the Caribbean.

Dine with the locals and Aruba's visitors to get true value while you enjoy delicious Jamaican jerk chicken, beef and fish, whole snapper, akee and many other island specialties in the all-new Kool Runnings Restaurant. They have brought back real Caribbean flavors. The former management of Jamaica Me Crazy and its intellectual properties have been acquired by Kool Runnings. Its name comes from the movie about the Olympics-winning Jamaican bobsled team. They have rebuilt on the concept of



its predecessor's image as the best Caribbean eatery on Aruba for true value at reasonable prices for its clientele.

The management and concepts will remain the foundation for its success and its future. Very soon, they will be introducing their famous Reggae Explosion Night on a weekly basis, which will be a live reggae concert.

The restaurant has

terrace seating outdoors as well and inside its "Royal Colors of Reggae" with red, yellow and green tables and décor make for the perfect island setting. They also have a gift-shop that offers every kind of Jamaican and Bob Marley memorabilia, and is a real find.

The new establishment was graced by the surprise presence

of the remaining Wailers, Marvin and Al, of Bob Marley fame, who stopped by after their concert at the Hard Rock Café opening, also in the same mall. Point man Danny Wilson Jr., along with his father, whose brother went to school with Marvin, gave them a huge welcome.

Right now Kool Runnings patrons can take advantage of its special Twofer offerings – get two for the price of one and savor its specialties. They are open from 11 to 11 daily, except Sundays, when they are open for dinner only. They can be reached by calling 586-5375 or by fax at 586-7807. They can also be reached by e-mail at: koolrunningsaruba@gmail.com. □



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EAGLE BEACH - ECO market on the island for over two decades. The company specializes in creating memorable vacation stays



for corporate clients, staging spectacular airport arrivals, adventure-filled island tours and picture-perfect banquets and celebrations.

In December, staff members got a delicious taste of their own medicine as company CEO Wichita Villacres whisked her dedicated crew off the island for a Bahamas cruise combined with shopping in Miami, all-expenses-paid. The program was laced with all the bells and whistles usually reserved for large corporate clients.

Villacres, famous for her high-energy and prolific imagination which she uses to create motivational experiences for her clients, reports: "We know that highly motivated employees are vital to any company's ability to maximize business performance and we have been helping companies from around the globe motivate their employees, and rewarding them with very memorable trips to Aruba." "The incentive trips," Villacres explains, "not only reward hard-working employees for past achievements, but also guarantee future performance by keeping levels of commitment high, and as a result levels of performance jump even higher."

"While some companies," Villacres shares, "opt to



ignore this fact and throw out motivational and incentive programs at the first sign of economic downturn, in early December, before the beginning of the island's high season we went out on a fantastic trip to the Bahamas."

"It is important in the face of a global slump," she advises, "to invest in employees, and make sure they deliver optimally, refreshed and rejuvenated. My crew, nicknamed 'the achievers,' had a good time,"

she states, "and will be giving ECO DMS a competitive edge this winter."

Pictured here ECO DMS' business solutions, going on a trip to reward its employees and motivate them further, just ahead of a successful winter season.

ECO DMS is also available to local companies and is prepared to tailor and design a custom-program brimming with motivational experiences, in the local market. □



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Police in Aruba ready for a more complete registration system, Actpol

ORANJESTAD — Soon the police will be able to detail all type of crime, violence and misdemeanors with its brand new system Actpol, introduced this week. The new system, financed by the Aruba Development Fund, was an investment of almost 1.2 million florins and this is without the cost of training for the personnel that is also substantial.

Actpol will replace the Xpol system, which provided a limited view of police handlings. The new system, approved by the Minister of Justice Rudy Croes last year, entails a more thorough administration of police activities. For instance, the police can now specify a crime or misdemeanor in details, unlike it was the

case before. The previous system recorded that a crime/misdemeanor had occurred, which limited the year reviews in providing a complete image of what had transpired in the community. Now, the system will demand from officers to detail whether there was a case of domestic abuse, child abuse, violence, and so forth, and all data has to be filled in, otherwise it would not allow for continuation.

Moreover, the intention is to link the system to the Census Bureau and eventually to the one of the General Health Insurance, AZV, as way to back up information on personal data.

This is crucial, as police officers will not be required to 'write' personal information

any more with Actpol, thus eliminating the chances of misspelling a person's name. The system itself will call up the name of the people involved based on automated data.

Inspector Jeanette Richardson Baars was the project leader for the Actpol, and explained that the process to get the financing was long, complicated but that the Aruba Police is happy that FDA approved the investment in a system that will allow a better overview of police activities in Aruba. Mr. Jeff Brooks also of the Aruba Police is responsible for the system and said

training for the personnel have started but that the complete implementation of Actpol will take a few more weeks. He ensured that all involved will be provided the necessary tools or even assistance to become proficient with the new system.

Actpol has already been introduced in Curaçao and St. Maarten, and even though the implementation of the Aruba system is slightly different, due to different circumstances, Jeiro Belioso of ACT (the Curaçao based company that provides the system), ensured it will be a major asset for the Aruba

Police as well. Belioso outlined the usage of the automated registration and administration, and also emphasized the enormous security that is linked with the Actpol, not only within the compounds of the police but also to avoid illegal hacking.

Head Commissioner Peter de Witte expressed his satisfaction with the acquisition of Actpol, which is not only a result of major efforts of his staff but also a new tool to have a clear oversight on the developments in Aruba, as this will allow for more precise policies and management decisions. □

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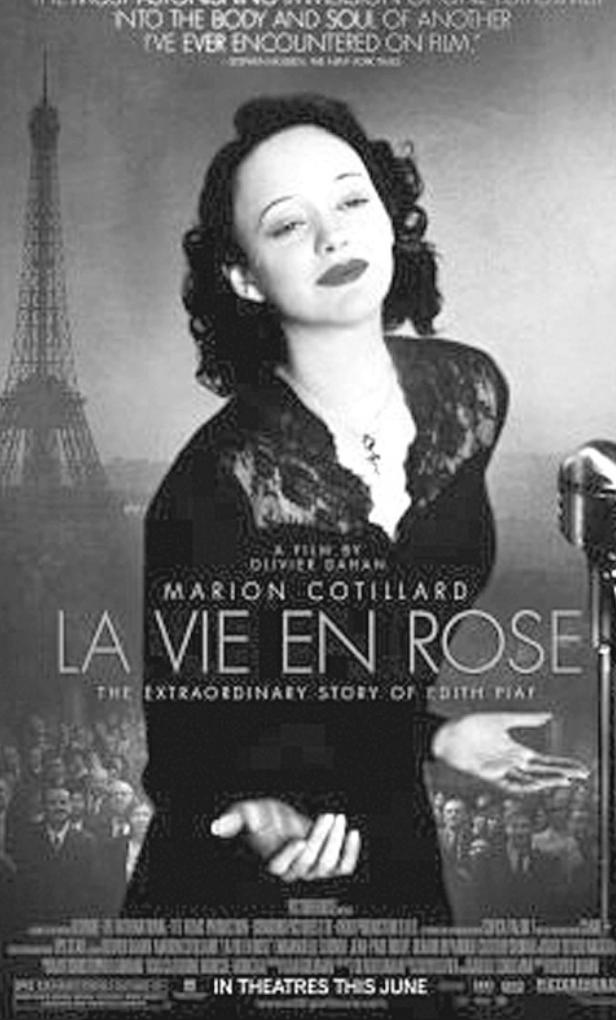
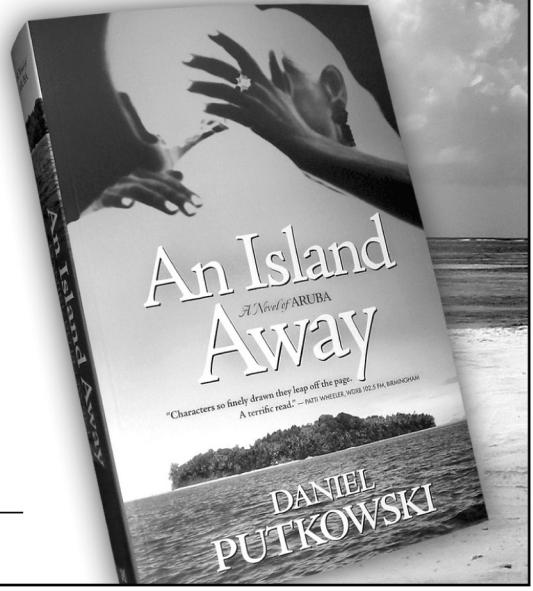
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"La vie en Rose" tonight at 8 pm at Access Art

ORANJESTAD - Access Arthouse theater Together with Pro Crea Foundation has the honor of inviting you to a special film cycle on Arthouse films.

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Director: Olivier Dahan

Cast: Marion Cotillard, Sylvie Testud, Pascal Greggory, Emmanuelle Seigner and Gerard Depardieu.

Running Time: 140 minutes

Awards: Won 2 Oscars & 33 nomination

" La vie en Rose "

Uplifted beyond its merits by a stunning performance from Marion Cotillard, the humdrum biopic of Edith Piaf, *La Vie En Rose*, jogs obligingly along with Piaf the legend rather than the woman. It's not hard to do, given the fuzzy borders between Piaf's undeniably scarred life and her relentless gift for revisionist autobiography.

By any measure, France's favorite songbird had a lousy childhood. Shuttled from pillar to

post of Paris's slum district by her mother, an alcoholic café singer and part-time hooker, Piaf was eventually dumped as a toddler by her father (a circus contortionist) on his mother, who ran a brothel. This serial abandonment led to a self-destructive streak that dogged Piaf through her years singing for scraps on the streets.

A meteoric rise to fame did nothing to ease the existential panic, and Piaf spent years as a soused party animal with scads of unreliable lovers who made her miserable and vice versa.

Two tumultuous marriages didn't help, nor did Piaf's addiction to morphine after a serious car crash. Dragging herself from one performance to another long after she should have quit, at age 47 she finally succumbed, defiantly but famously with no regrets, to cancer in 1963.

If that's not a movie, I don't know what is. Contribution is strongly suggested in order to continue with our film club presentations. □

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Double All Star Celebrations at Aruba Marriott

Eleven Superstar Associates Receive Star Award



PALM BEACH – On January 29th, the Aruba Marriott organized their monthly award ceremony, where associates from all 3 Marriott properties were elected “All Star Team” members for their outstanding performance. This time it was double celebration for the winning stars, as associates were elected for the month of November and December of 2008. Some associates specially dressed up for the occasion.

For a tremendous job in the month of November’s the following associates won: Yazira Feliciana - Casino marketing, Aysheline Tromp - At Your Service, Azugita Arends - Accounts Payable, Edward Wolter - Pavillon bartender, Diego Noguera - Engineering

Ocean Club and Bibiana Londono - Housekeeping Surf Club.

The All star team of December consisted of: Humphrey Frolik - Surveillance Casino, Luis Masias - Engineering Surf Club, Maria Fe Jaranilla - Housekeeping Surf Club, Sonia Tabares - Market Place and Joel Alcantara - Captain’s Galley bar back.

These eleven superstars were complimented and thanked by their managers and supervisors. They have shown great team work, being reliable and flexible at all times as well as their Spirit to serve Marriott’s guests. Overall, they are a great asset to their departments. All winners received a plaque and 300

florins and are automatically in the race for the Associate of the Year 2008 elections.

Other celebrations also took place as hotel manager Louella Brezovar announced the anniversaries of three associates who have been with the resort for a decade. Raquel Cocco,

Robert Neuman and Raquel Guerrero received recognition for their loyalty to the Aruba Marriott.

Soraya Lessire, Maikel Koolman and Alex Adoptie, all three employed at the Events department were acknowledged for the Spirit to Serve award.

This award is a written testimonial, signed by Mr. Marriott personally, thanking the associates for an outstanding guest service delivered. Pictured are the All Star team November 2008. □

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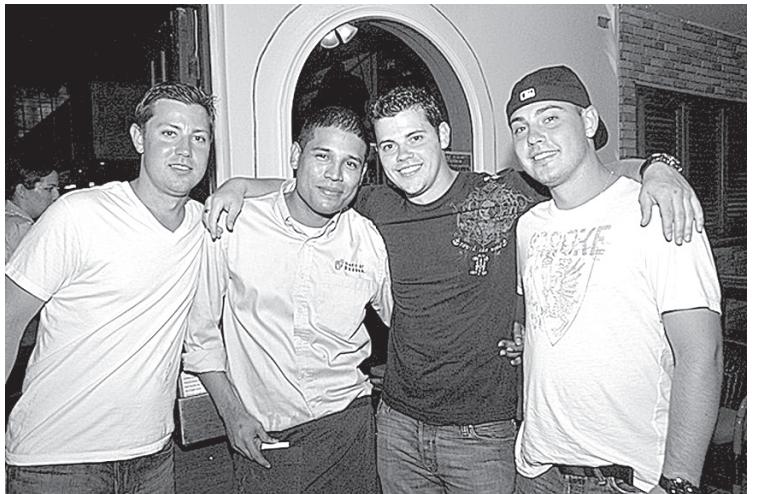
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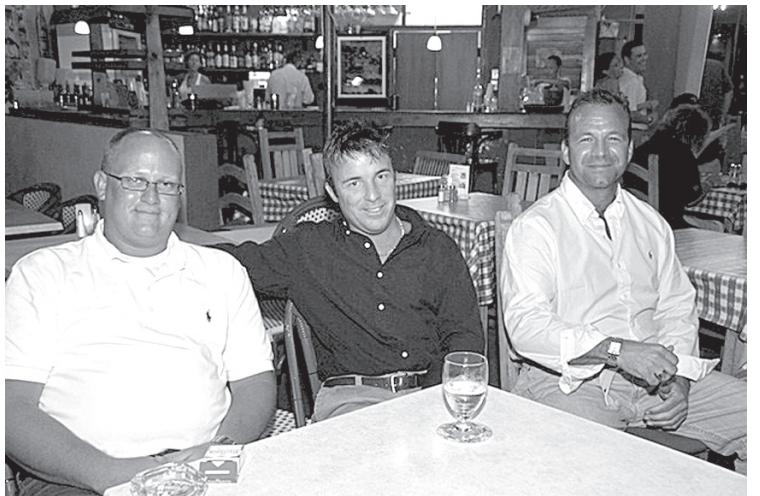
Steelers fans take Super Bowl party to Arawak Gardens



ARAWAK GARDENS

— Last Sunday evening, Super Bowl fans flocked to the Arawak Gardens for a fantastic evening. No matter which team you were for, the fans enjoyed the fantastic food and big screen TV's from Salt-n-Pepper, Tango, Fishes & More and Casa Tua. Gold and black-clad fans with Steelers' iconic Terrible Towels waving in the air partied into the early morning hours Monday in an impromptu Arawak party in the garden to celebrate the team's historic sixth Super Bowl win. □

Photos by Julia Renfro



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Friday Flamenco Fiesta; Well Worth The Short Trip Downtown
Paella & Flamenco at Casa Tua Downtown on Friday

DOWNTOWN - Casa Tua draws a crowd of local and not-so-local folks who can't seem to get enough of the pizza and the place. There's almost always a wait here, even if you have reservations, so place yourself at the bar with the smell of brick oven pizzas wafting to other tables, and knowing that at some point, that bliss will be yours.

Al fresco dining is designed with a chicly rustic feel. The atmosphere is cool and relaxed, "Casa Tua" meaning "Your Home" in Italian.

Casa Tua's famous secret thin crust recipe was handed down by an Italian chef, known locally as "the pizza master", in the French student city of Montpellier in 1969. This recipe has been perfected over the years to such a point where Casa Tua is known on the island these days for the best pizza. Period.



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The menu promises to be a true seafood lovers dream. Lobsters, fresh fish fillets, shrimps, Moby Dick's has everything on the menu. There is of course a land lubbers section for those who are so disposed. The wine list is impressive to say the least, and the cocktails are definitely worth a taste.

Moby Dick's is open for lunch as well. The chef has made a



well rounded, extensive menu for you to choose from. You will find what you want, whatever your craving may be at that time. The staff is amongst the friendliest on the island, ever so attentive to your every whim. So long story short, for unbelievable seafood in unique surroundings, go to Moby Dick's. You'll have a whale of a time!

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Donald & Corinne Hands honored at the Divi Village Resort

ORANJESTAD - Recently at the Divi Village, Aruba vacationers were presented with honorary titles created by the Ministry of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guest visiting Aruba for ten and 20 consecutive years. Special friends of Aruba, enjoying ten or more annual vacations here, are given the Distinguished Guest certificate and those with twenty consecutive years are awarded the Ambassador of goodwill title. The recent honoring were effected by the Aruba Tourism Authority associate Ricardo Croes at the Divi Village which they call their home away from home. Donald & Corinne Hands were honored as an Distinguished visitor for the Island of Aruba after coming to the Island for 18 years

Pictured: Mr. Ricardo Croes together with Donald & Corinne and also staff from the Divi Village Resort

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JUST SAY

TO DRUGS

Aruba TODAY



French First Lady Carla Bruni-Sarkozy attends a dinner to raise awareness on AIDS in January 2009 in Paris. Bruni-Sarkozy will travel to Burkina Faso next week on her first trip as goodwill ambassador for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, officials said Wednesday.

(AFP/File/Miguel Medina)

French first lady Carla Bruni-Sarkozy on AIDS trip to West Africa

PARIS (AFP) – French first lady Carla Bruni-Sarkozy will travel to Burkina Faso next week on her first trip as goodwill ambassador for the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, officials said Wednesday.

Bruni will during the one-day trip next Wednesday visit a hospital in the capital Ouagadougou and meet mothers and their children infected by the HIV virus that causes AIDS.

She will also meet with health officials and charity workers and visit a centre that provides HIV-testing in the West African state that the United Nations ranks as the world's third poorest country. Burkina Faso managed to bring down HIV infections from 7.4 percent in 1997 to 2 percent in 2005, according to a 2008 UN report that said that increasing use of condoms had helped reduce the rate.

Bruni, the wife of President Nicolas Sarkozy, agreed in November to become a goodwill ambassador for the protection of mothers and children against AIDS.

Based in Geneva, the Global Fund oversees hundreds of programmes in 136 countries through public-private partnerships that have raised more than 11 billion dollars.

Bruni, who married Sarkozy a year ago, expressed an interest in work to battle HIV following a visit to South Africa, which has one of the world's largest AIDS caseloads.

The supermodel-turned-singer has said she hoped her status as French first lady could be used to advance a worthy global cause.

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British Princess Anne (C) walks upon her arrival at Pristina airport as she begins a three-day visit to Kosovo, the first visit by a British Royal since the country became independent.

(AFP/Armend Nimani)

Britain's Princess Anne visits Kosovo

PRISTINA (AFP) — Princess Anne, the only daughter of Queen Elizabeth II, on Wednesday became the first British royal to visit Kosovo since the disputed Balkan territory declared independence.

Kosovo Foreign Minister Skender Hyseni was on hand to welcome the princess at Pristina airport.

During her visit, Princess Anne was to "meet a variety of people from different communities within Kosovo," the British embassy said in a statement.

As the patron of the charity Save the Children, she plans to attend an eastern Kosovo pre-school which works toward integrating disabled children into the education system.

She is also scheduled to visit British peacekeepers and members of a European Union mission "in recognition of the role they are playing in Kosovo during this period of transition," said the statement.

"This visit reflects the importance that the United Kingdom places on its relationship with Kosovo," said Andy Sparkes, Britain's ambassador to Kosovo.

Britain announced its recognition of Kosovo a day after the ethnic Albanian-majority region unilaterally seceded from Serbia on February 17, 2008. Serbia, which still considers Kosovo its southern province, reacted by recalling its ambassador to London, only reinstating the envoy in October after it won the right to challenge Kosovo's independence before the world court. □

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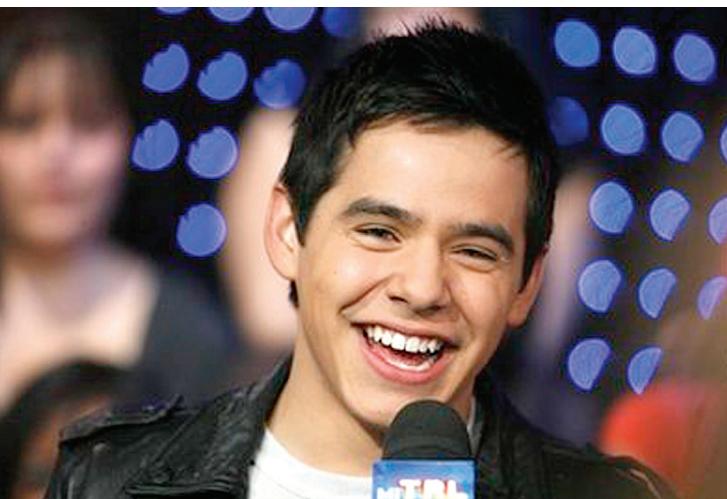
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For some, 'American Idol' a second chance at fame



In this Tuesday, Nov. 11, 2008 file photo, singer David Archuleta appears onstage during a taping of MTV tr3s' 'MiTRL' at the MTV Times Square Studios in New York.

(AP Photo/Jason DeCrow, file)

By DERRIK J. LANG,
AP Entertainment Writer

LOS ANGELES — It has the makings of an all-star ensemble: an Osmond family member, a Rosie O'Donnell protege, the sister of a Grammy-winning blues singer, an actor from "Wicked," a former Miss New York USA, an actress who's been on "The Sopranos" and a recording artist who was covered by Britney Spears. But this is not the new cast of "Dancing with the Stars." It's a cross-section of the not-so-green wannabes who made it through to Hollywood Week on "American Idol."

For the reality competition whose tagline was once "The Search for the Next Superstar," it seems there are several crooners who've already had a shot — or several — at making it in the music industry.

"The series creates this problem for itself by frequently playing up the dream-making aspect of the show, but it isn't really an amateur competition," said Andy Dehnart, who blogs about reality TV at realityblurred.com.

Joanna Pacitti, who auditioned in Kentucky, has attracted the most attention for her showbiz background. She was signed to A&M Records, as judge Kara DioGuardi pointed out on the show, and Geffen Records released an album by her in 2006. Britney Spears' tune "Out From Under," from her latest album, was first sung by Pacitti on the "Bratz" soundtrack.

Pacitti isn't the only contestant who brought a bit of her own spotlight to the "Idol" stage. Danielle Roundtree was Miss New York USA in 2008. Adam Lambert was a cast member

in the Los Angeles production of "Wicked." Von Smith sang on "The View" after Rosie O'Donnell spotted him wailing on YouTube. Jackie Tohn is a professional actress who has several film and TV credits to her name, including "The Sopranos." Other crooners have fame in their bloodline: David Osmond is the 29-year-old son of Alan Osmond, the eldest of the singing Osmond brothers; Jesse Langseth is the younger sister of Grammy Award-winning blues singer Johnny Lang; and Michael Castro is the younger brother of Jason Castro, the dreadlocked seventh season contestant who placed fourth. "I think the producers are just lazy," said Dave Della Terza, founder of VoteForTheWorst.com, which encourages "Idol" viewers to vote for bad — but entertaining — singers. "Clearly, there's something wrong with the audition process if they have to continue to have these plants on the show."

The only stipulation in the "Idol" rulebook is that contestants cannot be under a record or management contract when they audition. Nothing restricts those who once had a record deal from trying out. In fact, the past seven seasons of the Fox show have been littered with contestants with prior history in the biz.

Still, people talk. Last season, finalist Carly Smithson caused a stir online when it was revealed she recorded an album for MCA Records. □

K-Fed Lawyer: No Deal Yet on Britney Touring With Tykes

"There can be an agreement reached in probably the next day, but there is not an agreement that is signed yet."

Kaplan says they are hammering out the last details, but the basic agreement will allow Spears to see her two sons on "pretty much the same schedule that she has now," which is around three days a week. For the sake of the tour, Federline will travel with the kids to tour areas.

"Kevin is working to make them accessible by going on various central locations in various areas of the country and he is doing that because he wants her to be able to have the maximum positive environment around her to assure that the

tour will be successful," says Kaplan Sean and Jayden James will likely not be seeing any of mom's Circus shows nor will they be hanging out backstage. "I don't think the kids will be at venues, they will be available in her life when she is done with the rigors of performing," says Kaplan.

As for reports that Spears was threatening to cancel the tour if an agreement wasn't reached for the kids to come, Kaplan says that did not influence Federline's decision to allow the kids on tour.

"That would be her decision, but it is not something that would compel Kevin to decide what is best for his kids," Kaplan says.



Claudia Rosenbaum

Los Angeles (E! Online) — Despite Britney Spears' blog proclaiming earlier this week that Sean Preston and Jayden James will be joining her for the duration of her Circus tour, Kevin Federline's camp insists no deal is done.

"We are working towards that," K-Fed attorney Mark Vincent Kaplan exclusively tells E! News.

BUSINESS

Aruba TODAY

Stocks fluctuate as investors juggle weak earnings



Traders gather around a terminal on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange September 2008 in New York. Wall Street and the business community gave a lukewarm response Wednesday to the US administration's plan to cap executive pay, fearing it may lead to a talent exodus and delay recovery in the finance sector.

(AFP/Getty Images/File/Chris Hondros)

Madlen Read And Tim Paradis,

Ap Business Writer

NEW YORK — Investors grew nervous Wednesday that the weakness in the economy is spreading to companies like Kraft Foods Inc. that are usually seen as safe havens during recessions.

Stocks mostly gave back their gains from an early rally. Falling consumer stocks weighed most heavily on the Dow Jones industrial average and the Standard & Poor's 500 index. The Dow fell more than 125 points. Meanwhile, the tech-heavy Nasdaq composite index showed a modest advance.

Fourth-quarter numbers from Kraft, Walt Disney Co. and Time Warner Inc. provided the latest reminder of the economy's struggles.

The worries about the reports and recurring fears about the banking industry upended an early rally that followed a better-than-expected reading on the service sector. The Institute for Supply Management said the sector shrank in January at a slower pace than in December. Still, it was the fourth straight month that business activity in services contracted.

The trade association of purchasing executives said its index rose to 42.9 in January

from a revised 40.1 in December. Analysts had expected a reading of 39, according to a survey by Thomson Reuters. The ISM's report on the manufacturing sector, issued Monday, similarly came in above expectations even as it signaled continuing weakness.

"There's so much uncertainty right now that investors are looking for any clues that the economy may be starting to stabilize and turn around," said Michael Sheldon, chief market strategist at RDM Financial Group.

Investors couldn't escape the disappointing earnings reports. Wall Street also looked to Washington with hopes leaders would soon show further progress on a bill to help revive the economy by boosting spending and lowering taxes.

The Senate is getting closer to passing a \$900 billion stimulus plan. Senators recently added money to the bill for medical research and tax breaks for car purchases. A similar plan has already cleared the House.

"Overall, we seem to be having a tug of war between very weak economic data and the prospect of a pick up in growth later this year helped by the upcoming stimulus package and potential help for the housing and financial services industries,"

Sheldon said.

In late afternoon trading, the Dow fell 128.23, or 1.59 percent, to 7,950.13.

Broader indicators were mixed. The Standard & Poor's 500 index fell 7.28, or 0.87 percent, to 831.23, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 5.74, or 0.38 percent, to 1,522.04.

The Russell 2000 index of smaller companies fell 2.44, or 0.54 percent, to 450.46.

Declining issues outnumbered advancers by about 3 to 2 on the New York Stock Exchange, where volume came to 1.01 billion shares.

Trading has been erratic in recent days. Investors coming off the market's worst January ever have been searching for bargains among battered stocks and looking for signs the economy might be bottoming out. The stock market finished

Tuesday with a gain, sending the major indexes up more

than 1 percent, thanks to reassuring data about pending home sales and better-than-expected earnings reports from companies like drugmakers.

Bond prices were mixed Wednesday. The yield on the benchmark 10-year Treasury note, which moves opposite its price, rose to 2.91 percent from 2.88 percent late Tuesday. The yield on the three-month T-bill, considered one of the safest investments, dipped to 0.30 percent from 0.32 percent.

On Tuesday, the three-month yield rose to its highest level since December. The increase indicated some investors were backing out of the safest parts of the market and moving into riskier but higher-yielding areas like corporate debt. Demand is still high for government debt

but well off the panicked levels seen in the fall.

The Treasury Department said Wednesday it is bringing back the seven-year note and doubling the number of its 30-year bond auctions as it tries to handle a surging budget deficit projected to top \$1 trillion this year.

The dollar was mixed against other major currencies. Gold prices rose.

Light, sweet crude rose 24 cents to \$41.02 a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

The latest corporate profit reports weighed on the market. Kraft posted a fourth-quarter profit drop of 72 percent, as revenue from the Velveeta, Oreo cookies and Maxwell House coffee businesses could not make up for high restructuring costs. The stock fell \$2.70, or 9.4 percent, to \$26.04.

Service sector declines less than expected in Jan.

Christopher S. Rugaber,

Ap Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — The nation's service sector shrank for the fourth straight month in January, a trade group said Wednesday, but at a slower pace than the previous month.

The Institute for Supply Management, a trade association of purchasing executives, said its service sector index rose to 42.9 last month, from December's downwardly revised reading of 40.1.

That January reading was above analysts' expectations of 39, according to a survey by Thomson Reuters. Any reading above 50 signals growth, while a reading below 50 indicates contraction.

The ISM's service sector index is based on a survey of member companies in 18 industries such as hotels and travel, retail, health care and mining.

While the report indicates that the economy's decline may be moderating, it does not necessarily signal a turnaround, economists said.

"There is no reason at all

to expect any sustained improvement in sentiment anywhere in the economy at this point," Ian Shepherdson, chief economist at High Frequency Economics, wrote in a research note.

The report said new orders and production declined, but also at a slower pace than the previous two months.

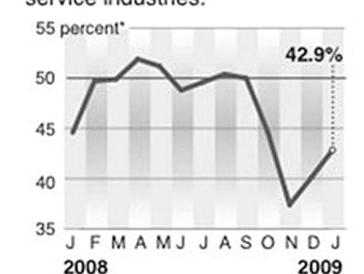
On Wall Street, stocks fell after optimism about the better-than-expected reading and hopes that Congress would soon move forward with a massive economic stimulus bill gave way to concerns over weak corporate earnings reports. In afternoon trading, the Dow Jones industrial average lost about 130 points and broader indicators also dipped.

Still, only two service industries in the ISM survey reported growth in January — health care and social assistance, and finance and insurance — despite recent troubles in the banking industry.

The 16 industries that reported declining activity include: mining, retail trade,

Index gains strength

The Nonmanufacturing Business Activity Index is a composite index reflecting growth and decline in service industries.



*Figures under 50 indicate sector contraction
SOURCE: Institute for Supply Management AP

Chart shows the Nonmanufacturing Index for the past 13 months; 1 c x 2 1/2 in; 46.5 mm x 63.5 mm

accommodation and food services, transportation and warehousing, and real estate, rental and leasing.

The survey's employment index also continued to weaken, dropping to 34.4 in January from 34.5 the previous month. Only one industry — transportation and warehousing — reported an increase in hiring, while the rest reported a drop or no change. Some respondents said they had instituted hiring freezes due to the slowing economy, the ISM said. □

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The cheap stimulus option: Stop hyping bad economic news

By Paul McDonnell

Dallas – The mother of all government stimulus packages is headed for passage – and sporting a 12-figure price tag. Since a recession is supposed to be a time for reining in extravagant habits, I wondered if there were any bargain basement stimulus plans available. I came up with one that would be virtually free.

Congress could pass a law requiring more positive coverage of the economy by the news media.

OK, so that's a tad unconstitutional. But the spirit of that plan does make an important point. Now that inflated asset values have been brought down to earth, many of our remaining problems are tied to a lack of confidence, fueled by what we read or see in the mainstream news.

Scanning the past year's headlines is like watching a bad horror film. The bodies keep piling up, and when you think it might be over, you find out it's only just begun.

Something is wrong with this picture.

While things in the economy truly are bad, this is not simply about reporting the truth; it's about representing that truth in the most responsible way. A media that is too much in love with stories that bleed is capable of making the recession worse than it has to be.

For instance, I recently read a headline announcing that the recession had begun to hurt small-business owners. The underlying article was about, believe it or not, a survey that registered an increase in the optimism of small-business owners. Deriding that small increase as insignificant, the article went on to tout the many sinister economic beasts awaiting us around every corner.

I saw another headline trumpeting negative job news. Upon reading the underlying article, I learned that initial jobless claims had unexpectedly fallen in the previous week. But this hopeful fact was quickly brushed aside as an aberration, and possibly even a result of layoffs getting an earlier start than in past winters.

I have seen a number of stories in which neutral or even positive economic news is taken too lightly, or spun negatively to the point of dizziness. Sometimes, the number of people on unemployment rolls is said to be the highest in so many decades. What goes unmentioned is the fact that growth in the US population over those decades makes such statements, while technically correct, potentially misleading.

If news stories took a more encouraging approach, while remaining engaging, maybe we could stimulate the confidence our economy needs without it costing an arm and a leg. □

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Is Obama Forgetting About Main Street?

John Nichols

The Nation -- There is no question that the United States is in a trade war.

And it is losing.

A country that month after month after month records trade deficits in the range of \$50 billion to \$60 billion--astronomical levels of imbalance between what is spent on imports versus what is earned from exports--is failing to compete, or even to function, in the global economy. And it certainly is not influencing the shape of that economy for the betterment of workers at home or abroad.

Barack Obama seemed to recognize this fact as a candidate for president.

But the man who just nominated radical free-trader Judd Gregg to serve as his Secretary of Commerce seems to be forgetting the factory workers he promised to protect as a candidate. Appearing on Fox News, Obama veered dramatically off course after he was asked about the so-called "Buy America" provisions in his stimulus plan.

Adopting the conservative network's preferred language, the president replied: "I agree that we can't send a protectionist message. I want to see what kind of language we can work on this issue. I think it would be a mistake, though, at a time when worldwide trade is declining, for us to start sending a message that somehow we're just looking after ourselves and not concerned with world trade."

Obama is smarter than that. At least he was when he was running for president against John McCain -- the Arizona

senator who, ironically, or is it tragically, has proposed an amendment to the stimulus bill that would strike the "Buy America" provisions from which Obama is distancing himself.

Obama used to understand that it is entirely possible, and appropriate, to "look after ourselves" while at the same time being "concerned with world trade."

In fact, every country does -- including the United States. The only issue is how we define "ourselves."

It all comes down to the Wall Street versus Main Street debate that was so central to the 2008 presidential campaign.

Bill Clinton and George Bush defined "ourselves" as a narrow circle of Wall Street traders, speculators and multinational investors -- all of whom gave very generous contributions to friendly Democrats and Republicans.

Supporters of "Buy America" provisions in the stimulus plan -- which would use the massive infusions of U.S. money into the economy to encourage domestic job creation -- define "ourselves" differently. For them, it's about Main Street. They are thinking of unemployed Pennsylvania construction workers who need jobs and of Ohio steel workers who still have jobs but fear losing them. They are thinking of Iowa farm families that are having a hard time getting the loans to plant this year's crop and of Alabama small business owners who are trying to hold their own against unfair competition from Wal-Mart super centers that pack their shelves with cheap

imports from countries where environmental and food safety regulations are laxer than those applied in the U.S.

"We have a responsibility to taxpayers to use their dollars to support American jobs," explains Ohio Senator Sherrod Brown, a veteran global human rights campaigner who as a member of the House and Senate has long been one of the most consistent and concerned internationalists in Congress.

Brown and other leading supporters of the "Buy America" provisions in the stimulus bill are not wide-eyed nationalists who hate foreigners and seek to practice crude protectionism.

In fact, they are unbought-and-unbossed members of Congress, the trade unionists, farm organizations, consumer advocates and others who form the fair-trade movement that has been in the forefront of the campaign for a new global trading system that promotes sustainability, environmentally-sound practices and human rights.

They are concerned about workers and farmers in the United States, but they are also concerned about workers and farmers in the countries with which the United States trades. By any and every measure, they are dramatically more concerned about exploited workers in the developing world than the free-trade absolutists who have encouraged agricultural policies and food-speculation schemes that have forced small farmers off the land in Latin America, African and Asian countries, inflated food prices and created hunger crises in dozens of countries. □

Driftwood Authentic Aruban Seafood Restaurant offers diners the ultimate dining experience in freshly line caught fish.



ORANJESTAD - Why should seafood enthusiast and other diners alike go to Driftwood Restaurant? Well let's start by mentioning that their fish is caught daily by the owner himself and prepared by a local chef. "Just like mama makes it." The food is fresh, the staff is friendly, and the place is definitely buzzing. If you want to catch your own fresh fish and can't stay for a sit-down dinner, enjoy their Charter Fishing trip and have them prepare it for you. Trust me; it doesn't get any fresher than this: From pier to plate as their motto says.



Fried fish would be the common choice, but you can get your entrée broiled, grilled or baked. However you can indulge in the more guilty options for lobster, Alaskan king crab legs, grouper, shrimp, Black Angus tenderloin and so forth. Ease your

conscience and add a salad or go all out and try their delicious crab cakes, fish soup, garlic escargots, lobster crepe and coconut shrimps before your hearty entrée.



While seafood stars at Driftwood, fish-phobic diners will not go hungry. They have a staggeringly vast menu, which doesn't miss much of anything, from authentic Aruban seafood, lobster, Alaskan king crab legs to chicken, lamb or steaks.

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ORANJESTAD - Benjamin Petrochi has started the newest

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process of making a perfect cigar which takes a long time. The cigar case is specially designed for the cigars with the logo 'Aruhiba' and 'Made in Aruba'. Petrochi considers 'Aruhiba' a promotion for Aruba through fine quality cigars.

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Low carb eaters will have all their expectations surpassed with a tempting carnivorous selection of umpteen



cuts of sizzling beef, pork, lamb, sausage, and poultry. The meats are prepared in the healthiest style of cooking—slow roasting—where much of the fat drips off in the roasting process, so those looking for a lower fat option to sautéing, pan frying, or deep frying will also be able to indulge.

The Brazilian-style steakhouse also offers up a gar-

den full of healthy eats on a lavish 40-item seasonal salad bar, giving dieters plenty to choose from to accompany the slow-roasted meats. A selection of fresh lettuces and vegetables may be standard for most salad bars, but **Texas de Brazil**'s version goes a gourmet twist further, treating the palate to additional items like marinated portabella mushrooms, sweet roasted bell peppers, hearts of palm, sundried tomatoes, imported cheeses—including fresh bufalino mozzarella—sushi, homemade soups, and much more.

The salad bar is included in the continuous service meal with unlimited choices from the grilled meats, but for vegetarians or the non-meat eaters, a special price is offered for just the salad bar. Of course, for those looking to

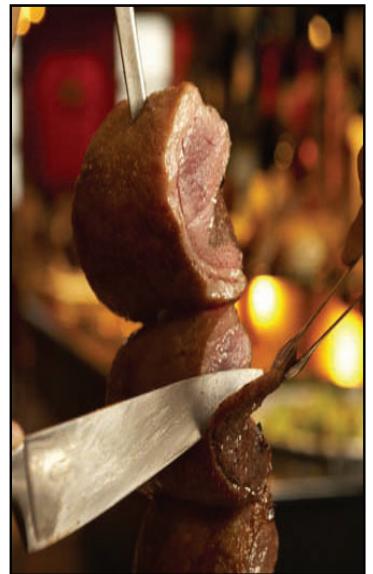
splurge while on vacation, **Texas de Brazil** will gladly serve their garlic mashed potatoes, traditional fried plantains, and their world-famous parmesan cheese bread as part of the meal.

For more information or to make reservations, please call 586-4686.□



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In this photo provided by Chris Nakashima-Brown, an electronic road sign is seen in Austin, Texas on Monday, Jan. 26, 2009. Two electronic signs intended to warn motorists of construction near the intersection of Lamar and Martin Luther King boulevards were changed yesterday by hackers.

Associated Press

Obama caps executive pay tied to bailout money

By JIM KUHNHENN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Wednesday imposed a \$500,000 cap on senior executive pay for the most distressed financial institutions receiving taxpayer bailout money and promised new steps to end a system of "executives being rewarded for failure."

Obama announced the unusual government intervention into corporate America at the White House, with Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner at his side. The president said the executive-pay limits are a first step, to be followed by the unveiling next week of a sweeping new framework for spending what remains of the \$700 billion financial industry bailout that Congress created last year.

The pay limit comes amid a national outcry over huge bonuses to executives who head companies that seek taxpayer dollars to remain afloat. The demand for limits



President Barack Obama looks on as Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner speaks about executive compensation, Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009, in the Grand Foyer of the White House in Washington.

Associated Press

was reinforced by revelations that Wall Street firms paid more than \$18 billion in bonuses in 2008 amid the economic downturn and the massive infusion of taxpayer dollars.

The limit would apply to top-paid executives at the most distressed financial

institutions that are negotiating bailout agreements with the federal government. It also would apply to other banks that receive aid, but they could get around the limits by publicizing to shareholders plans to exceed the salary cap.

Continued on Next Page

Bomb critically wounds head of Ark. medical board



Police tape blocks an area around the home of West Memphis, Ark., physician, Dr. Trent Pierce, after an early morning explosion damaged a Lexus hybrid, and seriously injured Pierce. ATF and the FBI as well as the Arkansas State Police are investigating the incident. A cause for the blast has not been determined.

Associated Press

By WOODY BAIRD

Associated Press Writer

WEST MEMPHIS, Arkansas (AP) - A car bomb explosion critically wounded the head of the Arkansas panel that licenses and disciplines doctors, detonating in his driveway as he was leaving for work, authorities said.

Continued on Page B5



Pope Benedict XVI gestures during the weekly general audience in Pope Paul VI hall, at the Vatican, Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009. German Chancellor Angela Merkel on Tuesday called on Pope Benedict XVI to make a "very clear" rejection of Holocaust denials after the Vatican's rehabilitation of a former bishop who questioned whether 6 million Jews were gassed by the Nazis.

Associated Press

Vatican turnaround: Holocaust denier must recant

By VICTOR L. SIMPSON

Associated Press Writer

VATICAN CITY (AP) - Responding to growing protests, the Vatican firmly distanced itself Wednesday from a prelate who denied the Holocaust and demanded that he recant his positions before being fully admitted as a bishop into the Roman Catholic Church.

Continued on Page B7



Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., left, talks to Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-S.C., as Sen. Jim DeMint, R-S.C., second from right, and other Republican lawmakers, participate in a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009.

EXECUTIVE PAY

Continued from Page B1

The limits would not apply retroactively to any bank that received money from the first half of the \$700 bailout allocated by Congress. For example, the restriction would not apply to such firms as American International Group Inc., Bank of America Corp., and Citigroup Inc., that already have received such help.

But Obama touted the broad

Associated Press

symbolism of his action.

"This is America. We don't disparage wealth. We don't begrudge anybody for achieving success," Obama said. "But what gets people upset — and rightfully so — are executives being rewarded for failure. Especially when those rewards are subsidized by U.S. taxpayers."

"There is a deep sense across the country that those who were not ... responsible for

this crisis are bearing a greater burden than those who were," Geithner said.

Firms that want to pay executives above the \$500,000 threshold would have to use stock that could not be sold or liquidated until they pay back the government funds.

Generally healthy institutions that get capital infusions from the Troubled Asset Relief Program in the future will have more leeway. They also will face the \$500,000 limit, but the cap can be waived with full public disclosure and a nonbinding shareholder vote. Obama said that massive severance packages for executives who leave failing firms are also going to be eliminated. "We're taking the air out of golden parachutes," he said.

Other new requirements on "exceptional assistance" will include:

The expansion to 20, from five, the number of executives who would face reduced bonuses and incentives if they are found

to have knowingly provided inaccurate information related to company financial statements or performance measurements.

An increase in the ban on golden parachutes from a firm's top five senior executives to its top 10. The next 25 would be prohibited from golden parachutes that exceed one year's compensation.

A requirement that boards of directors adopt policies on spending such as corporate jets, renovations and entertainment.

The administration also will propose long-term compensation restrictions even for companies that don't receive government assistance, Obama said.

Those proposals include:

- Requiring top executives at financial institutions to hold stock for several years before they can cash out.
- Requiring nonbinding "say on pay" resolutions — that is, giving shareholders more say on executive compensation.
- A Treasury-sponsored

conference on a long-term overhaul of executive compensation.

Compensation experts in the private sector have warned that intrusions into the internal decisions of financial institutions could discourage participation in the rescue program and slow down the financial sector's recovery. They also argue that it could set a precedent for government regulation that undermines performance-based pay.

"One of the big questions is whether it will make it more difficult to recruit and retain executives at these companies," said Claudia Allen, chair of corporate governance at the Chicago-based law firm of Neal, Gerber & Eisenberg.

The \$500,000 cap "is a very tight limit," she said.

Timothy J. Bartl, vice president and general counsel for the Center On Executive Compensation, said the president's actions are a unique situation given the government's role bailing out troubled institutions. □



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USDA puts employees on leave amid drug allegations

By AMY LORENTZEN
Associated Press Writer

DES MOINES, Iowa

— The U.S. Department of Agriculture has placed 19 employees at a laboratory campus in central Iowa on paid leave after allegations that some used veterinary credentials to purchase low-cost medications for themselves and relatives.

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack, Iowa's former governor, called it "a very serious situation that requires immediate and decisive action."

He told The Associated Press by telephone Wednesday afternoon that there is no evidence the alleged activity interfered with the laboratories' work or results. But Vilsack said

"we want to send a clear signal" that such actions won't be tolerated.

The names of the employees placed on leave weren't released. Officials said more could be involved.

Three USDA laboratories employ about 900 people on a sprawling campus in Ames. Testing for diseases such as mad cow and bird flu take place at the labs.

Cindy Smith, USDA's acting deputy undersecretary of marketing and regulatory

programs, said in a telephone interview that the drugs were sold to other employees for their own and their families' use. The drugs were primarily antibiotics, blood pressure medications and pain relievers; none were narcotics. "They are not concerned that they were being sold to anyone else, but there was inappropriate use being alleged of the veterinary credentials that allowed employees to gain access to medicines" that should have been purchased through a medical doctor, Smith said.

Vilsack said the USDA has commissioned two outside reviews of laboratory processes and management at the facilities. He said that results and possible corrective actions will be released once the investigation is finished.

I can't give you a time frame for the investigation.

It's ongoing," he said.

"It will be fair and complete."

Of the 19 employees placed on leave, all but two work for the USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, which oversees two of the three labs at the site. That agency's acting



United States Department of Agriculture labs is seen, Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009, in Ames, Iowa. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has placed 19 employees at the lab on administrative leave after allegations that some used veterinary credentials to purchase low-cost medications for human use.

Associated Press

administrator, Kevin Shea, reaffirmed that the alleged activities haven't affected the laboratories' work.

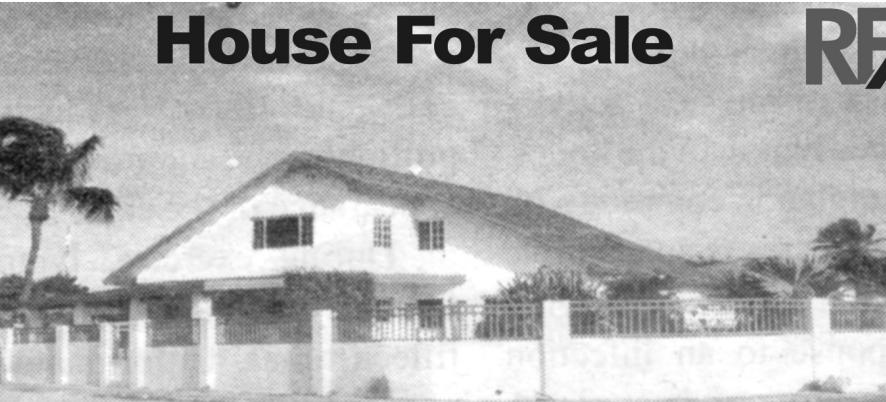
"We want to stress that, while we are extremely concerned with the conduct

demonstrated at Ames, there is no evidence any test results or other official laboratory activities were compromised in any way or caused any animal health risk," he said in a statement.

The third Ames lab is operated by the Agricultural Research Service.

Officials refused to release other details, citing the ongoing investigation. □

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Salazar scraps sale of oil-and-gas leases in Utah



U.S. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, front left, speaks during a news conference as Harris Sherman, front center, head of Colorado's Department of Natural Resources, and U.S. Rep. Ed Perlmutter, D-Colo., front right, look on along with Larry Pace, commissioner of Adams County, Colo., back left, and Tom Strickland, Salazar's chief of staff at the Department of Interior, during a tour of the Rocky Mountain Arsenal in the northeast Denver suburb of Commerce City, Colo., on Friday, Jan. 30, 2009.

By PAUL FOY
Associated Press Writer

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - In a high-profile reversal of the Bush administration, Interior Secretary Ken Salazar said Wednesday the government is scrapping the lease of 77 parcels of federal land for oil and gas

drilling in Utah's redrock country.

"In the last weeks in office, the Bush administration rushed ahead to sell oil and gas leases near some of our nation's most precious landscapes in Utah," Salazar said from Washington in a teleconference call with



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reporters.

He ordered the Bureau of Land Management, which is part of the Interior Department, to not cash checks from winning bidders for parcels at issue in a lawsuit filed by environmental groups. The sales were worth \$6 million to the government in addition to royalties on any oil or gas production. "We will take time and a fresh look at these 77 parcels to see if they are appropriate for oil and gas development," Salazar said.

A federal judge put the sale of the 77 parcels on hold last month until the lawsuit was resolved. Now, Salazar is refusing to sell any of them _ at least until the new administration has a chance to take a second look. Conservation groups promised to press ahead with the lawsuit to challenge long-term management plans that made the sale of the parcels possible in

the first place. The plans, governing 7 million acres (nearly 3 million hectares) of public land in Utah, were approved by the BLM last year.

Among critics of December's lease auction was actor Robert Redford, who owns Sundance ski resort and has spent a lifetime on horseback in southern Utah's canyons. "I see this announcement as a sign that after eight long years of rapacious greed and backdoor dealings, our government is returning a sense of balance to the way it manages our lands," Redford, 71, said in a statement Wednesday.

Salazar said some of the 77 lease parcels are too close to Arches and Canyonlands national parks and Dinosaur National Monument, all in Utah. Other leases taken off the table were on the high cliffs of whitewater sections of the Green River through Desolation Canyon.

Salazar also acted to

protect plateaus populated by big game atop Nine Mile Canyon, sometimes called the world's longest art gallery because of its collection of ancient rock-art panels.

The National Park Service protested the Dec. 19 auction weeks before it was held, and the BLM removed some parcels from the auction list in response. Earthjustice, the group that filed the auction lawsuit, estimated the lands in question would produce only an hour and a half of oil for the whole country at current consumption rates. But those parcels also could have produced clean-burning natural gas, said industry groups, which condemned Salazar's decision as counter to President Barack Obama's goal of energy independence.

"We hope today's decision does not signal the administration is returning to the failed policies of the past, leaving much of America's vast energy resources locked up while the nation's demand for energy continues to grow," Jack Gerard, president of the American Petroleum Institute, said in a statement Wednesday.

Salazar said he was allowing the lease of 39 other parcels auctioned off in December that were not challenged in the lawsuit.

The BLM is scheduled to hold its next auction in Utah on March 24. It wasn't known Wednesday what lands might go up for sale next.

"We would hope that Interior will closely scrutinize this sale list and take BLM off autopilot under the Bush administration," said Steve Bloch, a staff lawyer for the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance. □

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Fire burns through roof of iconic Chicago church

By CARLA K. JOHNSON

Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO (AP) - A fire burned for more than two hours Wednesday at Holy Name Cathedral, severely damaging the attic and leaving gaping holes in the roof of the 134-year-old Chicago landmark and seat of Cardinal Francis George.

Firefighters battled the blaze in frigid temperatures at the iconic church, which had been destroyed in the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 and rebuilt.

"First we have to thank God no one was injured," George said after surveying the damage inside the church. "Chicago has always bounced back from fires."

Church officials said Masses would resume Thursday on schedule.

Flames shot through Holy Name's roof for about an hour before dying down and being replaced by plumes of white smoke. The fire was out around 8 a.m. Afterward, icicles hung from pews and water dripped from light



Chicago firefighters work in freezing temperatures on an extra-alarm fire at the Holy Name Cathedral, the seat of Cardinal Francis George, in Chicago, Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009.

Associated Press

fixtures, George said. While no injuries were reported from the blaze, a firefighter suffered a minor back sprain after slipping and falling.

There was no smoke or fire damage in the sanctuary, fire department spokesman Larry Langford said. The cause is under investigation.

Holy Name's pastor, the Rev. Daniel Mayall, said the fire set off the sprinkler system, which kept the flames from extensive wood paneling and

ornate decorations.

But Chicago Archdiocese Chancellor Jimmy Lago described the water damage to the church as "humongous," and said crews were pumping water from the basement.

Lourdes Mayback, 54, a parishioner for 25 years who has helped distribute communion and served as an usher, stood across the street from the cathedral and cried as it burned.

"My heart is breaking in pieces," she said. □

BOMB

Continued from Page B1

Police said they had no idea why someone would target Dr. Trent P. Pierce, chairman of the Arkansas State Medical Board. The explosive device placed on or near the car shattered the front of his white Lexus hybrid in a blast the police chief said could be heard a mile (1.6 kilometers) away.

West Memphis Police Chief Bob Paudert said it wasn't known if the doctor was in his car or outside it when the device exploded.

Pierce, a family-practice physician, was taken to Regional Medical Center in Memphis, Tennessee, where he was listed in critical condition, hospital spokeswoman Sandy Snell said.

The FBI said a second person was injured outside Pierce's home, but Paudert said only Pierce was hurt. The discrepancy could not be

resolved immediately. Pierce had been due in Little Rock later Wednesday in advance of Thursday and Friday's medical board meeting. The board agenda includes at least seven doctors who previously faced discipline.

Board attorney William Trice, of Little Rock, said he knew of no heated disputes involving Pierce and that Pierce often didn't even take part in board votes. "This is just off the wall," Trice said. "It's just such bizarre circumstances." Little Rock police used bomb-sniffing dogs Wednesday afternoon to scan the board's headquarters. State police investigators and Little Rock detectives spoke with workers and accessed Pierce's e-mail account. Officers also planned to provide security during the board's upcoming hearings. Pierce received no threatening e-mails or letters at work, nor had there been any outbursts



In this undated photo chairman of the Arkansas State Medical Board Trent P. Pierce is shown in Arkansas. Pierce, was critically injured Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009, when his car exploded as the family physician was leaving his home for work, the board attorney said, in West Memphis, Ark.

Associated Press

during recent meetings targeting him, Trice said. The lawyer said he spoke Tuesday with Pierce and their conversation carried no tension or hints of trouble. □

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UN says Hamas seized food aid, blankets in Gaza



A Palestinian carries sacks of flour he received at a United Nations food distribution center in Rafah refugee camp in the southern of Gaza Strip, Wednesday, Feb. 4, 2009.

Associated Press

By DIAA HADID

Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM (AP) - Hamas police in Gaza broke into a warehouse full of United Nations humanitarian supplies and seized thousands of blankets and food packages,

a U.N. spokesman said Wednesday, a rare public clash between the international agency that feeds much of the territory and the militant group that rules it.

The incident highlighted difficulties facing donors

seeking to bypass Hamas while helping Gazans survive and rebuild after Israel's punishing military operation.

Hamas policemen stormed into an aid warehouse in Gaza City on Tuesday evening and confiscated 3,500 blankets and over 400 food parcels ready for distribution to 500 families, said United Nations Relief and Works Agency spokesman Christopher Gunness.

"They were armed, they seized this, they took it by force," Gunness said, terming the incident "absolutely unacceptable."

Police seized the aid after UNRWA officials refused to voluntarily hand it over to the Hamas-run Ministry of Social Affairs, he said. Similar aid packages were distributed to 70,000 residents over the past two weeks, Gunness said.

In New York, U.N. deputy spokeswoman Marie Okabe

said UNRWA "condemned in the strongest terms" the confiscation of its aid supplies.

Ahmad Kurd, the Hamas official in charge of the ministry, did not deny the aid was seized. Other Hamas officials defended their actions.

Hamas spokesman Taher Nunu demanded an apology and said UNRWA was "spreading false news." Ihab Ghussein, a spokesman for the Interior Ministry, said the incident occurred because the U.N. was "storing the blankets in an area not authorized to be distributed."

U.N. officials said the aid was kept in a local storage facility because the organization's regular warehouses were full. The U.N., human rights groups and Palestinians have often complained that a blockade by Israel and Egypt has left

Gaza critically short of vital supplies.

Senior U.N. official John Ging said aid distribution would continue. "We are not going to punish the refugees for the irresponsible actions of a few," Ging said.

"The stakes are very high," Ging said. "Whatever donors give us by way of assistance has to be fully accounted for." The ability of Hamas to provide aid is crucial to maintaining support for its rule in the territory.

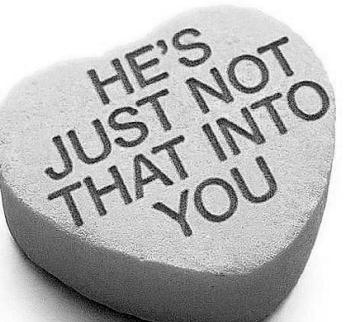
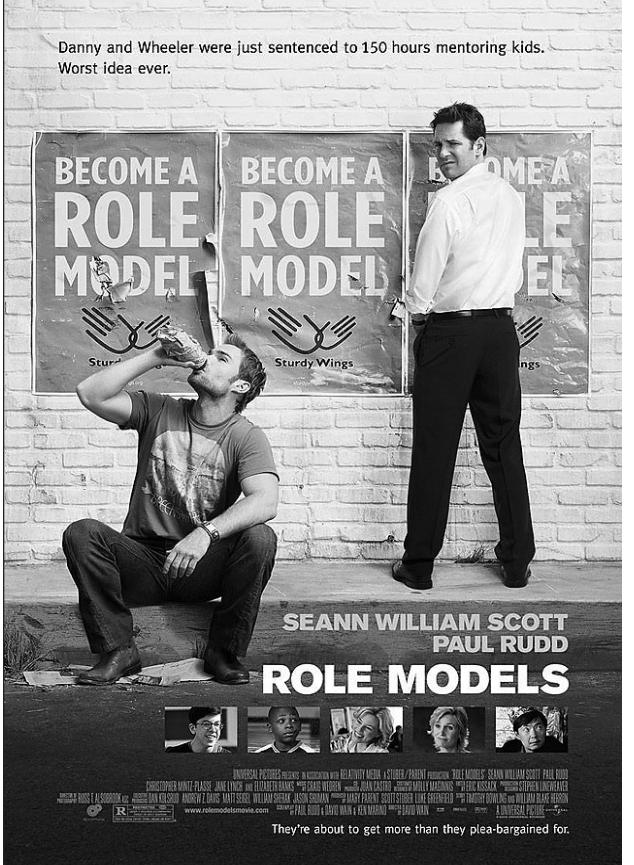
Mkhaimar Abusada, a professor at Al Aqsa university in Gaza City, said Hamas probably took the supplies to distribute them more widely than the U.N., which supports only the refugees.

"Maybe that is why Hamas is putting their hand on aid that comes to UNRWA, so they can give it to those they deem suitable," he said. □



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<input type="checkbox"/> PG-13	TAKEN	daily: 4:05	6:05	8:05	10:05	
		matinee: 12:05	2:05	late show: 12:00		

<input type="checkbox"/> R	CHANGELING	daily:	6:30	9:20		
		matinee:	late show: 12:10			

<input type="checkbox"/> PG-13	YES MAN	daily:	5:20	7:30	9:45	
		matinee: 12:45	3:00	late show: 11:55		

<input type="checkbox"/> PG	MARLY & ME	daily:	4:30	7:00	9:35	
		matinee:	1:55	late show: 12:05		

<input type="checkbox"/> PG	INKHEART	daily: 4:15	2:05	late show:		
		matinee: 11:55				

<input type="checkbox"/> PG	HOTEL FOR DOGS	daily: 5:50	8:00	10:10		
		matinee: 1:30	3:40	late show: 12:20		

AT PASEO HERENCIA

<input type="checkbox"/> PG-13	HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU	daily:	6:30	9:10	NEW
		matinee: 1:15	3:55	late show: 11:50	

<input type="checkbox"/> R	ROLE MODELS	daily: 4:00	6:10	8:15	10:20	NEW
		matinee: 11:55	1:55	late show: 12:40		

<input type="checkbox"/> PG-13	YES MEN	daily:	5:40	7:50	10:05	
		matinee: 1:05	3:25	late show: 12:20		

<input type="checkbox"/> PG	BRIDE WARS	daily: 4:05	6:05	8:00	10:00	
		matinee: 12:05	2:05	late show: 12:05		

<input type="checkbox"/> R	UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANS	daily: 4:20	6:20	8:30	10:25	
		matinee: 12:15	2:20	late show: 12:30		

<input type="checkbox"/> PG	HOTEL FOR DOGS	daily: 3:35	5:50	8:00	10:10	
		matinee: 1:20	late show: 12:30			

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VATICAN**Continued from Page B1**

The Vatican also said in a statement that Pope Benedict XVI didn't know about Bishop Richard Williamson's views when he agreed to lift his excommunication and that of three other ultraconservative bishops Jan. 21.

The furor over the German pope's decision has been spreading, forcing the Vatican to make a remarkable turnaround and publicly call the British bishop to order.

The statement was issued by the Vatican's Secretariat of State a day after German Chancellor Angela Merkel urged the pope to make a clearer rejection of Holocaust denials, saying there hadn't been adequate clarification from the Vatican. Further condemnations of Williamson had come from top German Church officials, Jewish groups and the head of the U.S. bishops conference. In a sign the Vatican had misread the mood even among its own officials, the secretary of state, Cardinal Tarcisio Bertone, was quoted in an Italian Catholic newspaper Tuesday as saying he considered the matter closed.

The controversy gave a rare look at the cracks in Vatican's facade of unity and raised questions about the advice the pope receives and his access to information. Papal aides say Benedict, a former university professor and theologian, receives a daily news summary and occasionally watches television.



This undated image from video shows British-born Bishop Richard Williamson, center, conducting a Mass at an unknown location.

Associated Press

"This was absolutely a matter that was bungled at the highest levels of the Vatican," said Rabbi Marvin Hier, founder of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles. "If they Googled the name 'Bishop Williamson,' they'd find out he was a Holocaust denier. This did not require advanced research at the Vatican Library or Oxford." Hier said he took the pope at his word that he didn't know Williamson's views.

In the rare public spat, some leading cardinals in Germany and at the Vatican blamed unidentified aides.

Williamson was shown on Swedish state television days before his rehabilitation was made public, acknowledging he said some years ago that "There was not one Jew killed by the gas chambers" during World

War II.

He said historical evidence "is hugely against 6 million Jews having been deliberately gassed in gas chambers as a deliberate policy of Adolf Hitler."

Williamson subsequently apologized to the pope for having stirred controversy, but he did not repudiate his comments, in which he also said only 200,000 to 300,000 Jews were killed during the war and none were gassed.

"Germany has paid out billions and billions of deutschmarks and now euros because the Germans have a guilt complex about their having gassed 6 million Jews. Well, I don't think 6 million Jews were gassed," he said. The controversy threatened to mar Benedict's strong record in building Catholic Jewish relations, which included

visits to the Nazi Auschwitz death camp in Poland and synagogues in Germany and the United States. Jewish leaders welcomed the Vatican's statement Wednesday.

"Had all this been expressed at the outset, we could have avoided the unnecessary damage and distress," Rabbi David Rosen, international director

of interreligious affairs of the American Jewish Committee, said in an e-mail following Wednesday's statement.

Williamson and three other bishops were excommunicated in 1988 after they were consecrated by the late ultraconservative Archbishop Marcel Lefebvre without papal consent. □

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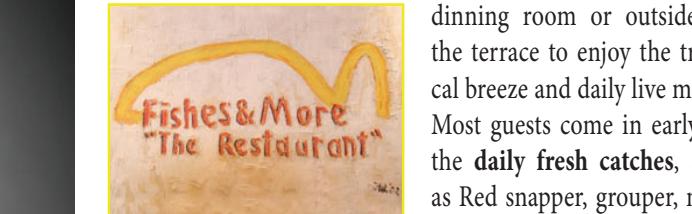


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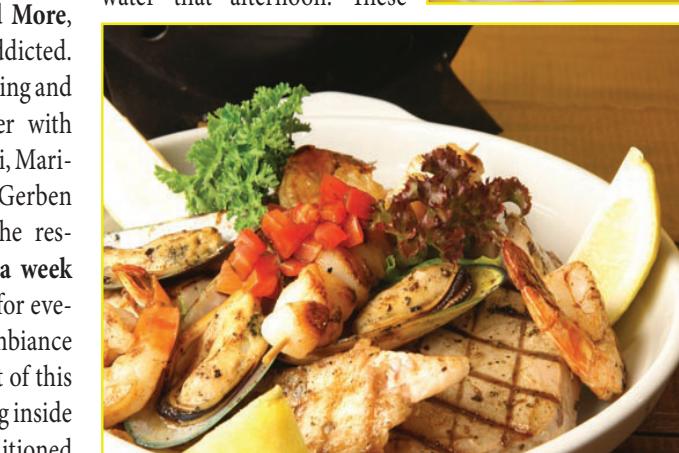
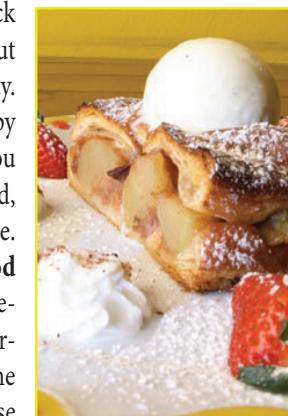
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Enjoy the Fresh Catch of the Day with Live Music in the back ground

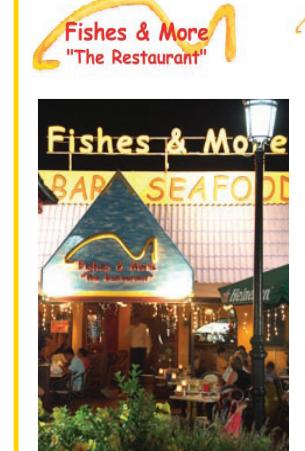
"Fishes and More" leads the way in seafood dining



dining room or outside on the terrace to enjoy the tropical breeze and daily live music. Most guests come in early for the daily fresh catches, such as Red snapper, grouper, mahi mahi, wahoo and tuna. Check with the server to find out about the Catch of the day. The chef will be more than happy to prepare your fish the way you like it best: grilled, deep-fried, pan-fried or the chef's choice. Every Wednesday, seafood specials are prepared depending on what the fishermen bring in fresh out of the water that afternoon. These



specials usually include fresh Caribbean lobster and pounds of peeled shrimps. Fishes and More is for everyone, from large groups, families, couples and even singles who can't shake the seafood addiction can stop in for a fix of Pina Colada Shrimp. For those who like to try something different or have had their fill of spectacular seafood, the chef prepares a wonderful array of filet mignon, rib eye, wiener schnitzel, veal parmesan, and pasta specialties. Great Seafood!!! Fun and relaxed atmosphere. Right across from the high rise hotels. It is worth the short walk to a wonderful dinner ☐



The Earlybird menu

Served between 4 pm & 6.30 pm

Soup of the day

Mixed Salad or Caesar Salad

Catch of the day

Fillet Mignon

Fettuccini Alfredo

Chicken Breast

Hot chocolate fudge Sunday

All main courses are served with

potatoes au Gratin & fresh vegetables

The early bird menu is priced at \$ 21.75

Service charge not included.

Open Daily from 4pm - 11pm

For info. and reservations

call 586-3659

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PALM BEACH - Taste of Belgium's Bistro is located in the intimate courtyard of the Paseo Herencia Mall across from the Holiday Inn Resort. It is cozy and casual: one can have a drink with friends, have a quick bite before grabbing a movie or relax and lounge away the afternoon and evening in the balmy breeze underneath the stars. The Bistro's great selection of

unusual presentation, an awesome side dish, a stunning combination, a surprising regional dish or a dessert that takes you to heaven and back a few times. Good service and lots of smiles will surely make the Bistro one of your favorite places to go to. Open for coffee, lunch, drinks, dinner and cocktails ☐



TASTE OF BELGIUM

The Bistro forms part of the Taste of Belgium family, which consists of the elegant chocolaterie in the Renaissance Mall downtown, the recently opened Papillon Restaurant in The Village across from the Radisson Resort, where casual fine dining gets new meaning and the Taste of Belgium Catering Service, which takes care of all the hassles of organizing any happening, party or dinner.

For information, please mail to:

chocolaterie@tasteofbelgium.aw bistro@tasteofbelgium.aw
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The most happening Happy Hour happens every day at Bugaloe



PALM BEACH - There is only one Bugaloe on Aruba: it is the hottest place to be cool and the coolest place to be hot. Friends and fun are the main ingredients at the beach bar, but great food, drinks and music get a good second place. The sunsets, the breeze and the

turquoise ocean are right at the top as well, of course. Bugaloe is located on De Palm Pier on the beach between the RIU Palace and the Radisson Resort at the Hi-Rise strip: an easy walk from all the major hotels. People from all over the world get together at Bugaloe: they have a few drinks, a bite to eat, they dance and sway and make new friends. If you have gotten curious here and now, check out the website www.bugaloe.com and you will see at one glace what we are

talking about. No words will be needed anymore. Surf to the website for the Bugaloe Event Calendar or leave a note in the Guestbook. Bugaloe's daily Happy Hours are considered the starting signal for an evening of partying on the island. Locals mingle with visitors and raise their glasses. When you get hungry, order a scrumptious burger, a gourmet pizza, tasty wings or a salad and party on. The night is young, the world is going crazy and you are

right in the middle of a super happening. What's not to like? A twice-a-month live breakfast radio show on Friday mornings with a spectacular breakfast buffet will keep you entertained as well. A hot tip: Bugaloe Beach Bar puts on live bands on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays. Lotus (YouTube keywords: lotus, bugaloe) and Marisela & Aquarius (YouTube keywords: marisela, confidential, 2008) are playing the stars from the sky. These bands are drawing the crowds, so be there or be square! On those nights the young as well as the young-at-heart are having the time of their lives. Photos of Bugaloe's happy times can be viewed at www.bugaloe.com. Don't forget to put your own movie of you and your friends having a whale of a time at Bugaloe on the web and enjoy being famous, crazy and hilarious. So upload, upload! We are looking forward to seeing you on YouTube or live in action.



DAILY HAPPY HOUR ON THE BEACH

4:00pm - 5:00pm

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SPORTS**Aruba TODAY**

New York Rangers center Chris Drury (23) takes a shot as Atlanta Thrashers goalie Kari Lehtonen (32), of Finland, defends during the second period of an NHL hockey game at Madison Square Garden in New York, Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2009. Thrashers defenseman Zach Bogosian (4) is at right.

Associated Press

NHL Roundup**LeBron surpasses 12,000 points as Cavs top Raptors**

CLEVELAND (AP) - LeBron James scored 33 and eclipsed 12,000 points for his career as the Cleveland Cavaliers won their 23rd straight home game 101-83 over the Toronto Raptors on Tuesday.

James became the fastest player in NBA history to reach the 12,000-point plateau. At 24 years, 35 days, he did it quicker than Los Angeles superstar Kobe Bryant, who was 25 years, 220 days.

Daniel Gibson scored 18 and Mo Williams 16 as the Cavaliers broke the club record for consecutive home wins set during the 1988-89 season.

Chris Bosh scored 29 and Jermaine O'Neal 20 to pace Toronto.

At Philadelphia, Ray Allen took a perfect pass from Paul Pierce and buried a baseline 3-pointer with 0.5 seconds left to give Boston its 12th straight victory. Andre Iguodala had just hit a fallaway jumper for a 99-97 lead for Philadelphia, which led the entire fourth quarter until

the final basket.

Pierce scored 29 points, Allen, 23 and Glen Davis had 12 points and 11 rebounds.

Iguodala scored 22 points and Andre Miller had 21 for Philadelphia.

At Indianapolis, Randy Foye scored 19 points, and Minnesota snapped a three-game skid with a victory over Indiana.

Sebastian Telfair and Ryan Gomes each scored 16 points, Kevin Love had 15 points and 11 rebounds and Al Jefferson had 12 points and 15 rebounds for the Timberwolves.

Danny Granger scored 28 points, Mike Dunleavy scored 20 and Troy Murphy added 17 points and 12 rebounds for the Pacers, who have lost back-to-back home games.

At Houston, Yao Ming scored 28 points, and Luis Scola scored 13 points and matched a career high with 18 rebounds as Houston beat Chicago.

Aaron Brooks scored 18 and Tracy McGrady added 16 for the Rockets, who've won six

NHL Roundup**Lehtonen makes 39 saves, lifts Thrashers to 2-1 win**

NEW YORK (AP) - Kari Lehtonen made 39 saves and then stopped two more shots in the shootout to lead the Atlanta Thrashers to a 2-1 victory over the New York Rangers on Tuesday.

The Thrashers were primed to win 1-0 on Joe Motzko's third-period goal before Markus Naslund got the Rangers even with only 10.7 seconds remaining in regulation.

Naslund then started the shootout with a goal, but Lehtonen turned aside Nikolai Zherdev and Fredrik Sjostrom. Bryan Little and Slava Kozlov

scored on Atlanta's attempts to help the Thrashers snap a four-game losing streak. New York has lost three straight (0-2-1). Just seconds after Thrashers leading scorer Ilya Kovalchuk hit the outside of the right post while shooting at an empty net, Naslund made Atlanta pay and re-electrified Madison Square Garden on the night the Rangers sent Adam Graves' No. 9 to the rafters.

Kings 1, Senators 0

At Ottawa, Michal Handzus scored in the third period as Los Angeles ruined Cory Clouston's first game as Ottawa's coach.

Jonathan Quick made 29 saves to record his third shutout of the season and improve to 4-1-0 in his last five starts. It was the first time he had faced the Senators.

Handzus picked up the puck behind the Senators net and jammed it in from the side at 17:21. Wayne Simmonds and Brad Richardson picked up assists on Handzus' ninth goal of the season.

Clouston took over after Craig Hartsburg was fired Sunday night.

Brian Elliot stopped 25 shots for Ottawa, coming very close to his first career shutout.

Capitals 5, Devils 2

At Newark, New Jersey, Michael Nylander scored twice as Washington snapped New Jersey's season-high eight-game winning streak.

Defenseman Mike Green scored for the fourth straight game, Alex Ovechkin added two assists and the Capitals converted three of four power plays in winning their third straight game.

Brooks Laich and Eric Fehr also scored in handing the Devils their first loss since Jan. 11.

Jamie Langenbrunner and Brian Rolston scored for New Jersey in the matchup of Atlantic and

Southeast division leaders.

Canadiens 4, Penguins 2

At Montreal, Chris Higgins and Maxim Lapierre scored second-period goals and Andrei Kostitsyn scored with 4:15 left to seal Montreal's victory.

Roman Hamrlik scored in the first period and assisted on Lapierre's goal 15:07 into the second, the third straight goal by Montreal, which took a 3-1 lead.

Evgeni Malkin drew Pittsburgh within one when he scored for the third game in a row, a team-leading 22nd goal of the season. But Pittsburgh lost its third in a row.

Islanders 3, Lightning 1

At Uniondale, New York, Yann Danis stopped 29 shots as New York earned its season-best fourth straight victory.

Trent Hunter, Mark Streit and Radek Martinek scored in the second period for New York. Karri Ramo started in net for Tampa Bay and stopped 13 shots before he was pulled for Mike McKenna, making his NHL debut. McKenna made 11 saves.

Vincent Lecavalier scored for Tampa Bay, which has lost three consecutive games.

Blues 4, Blue Jackets 2

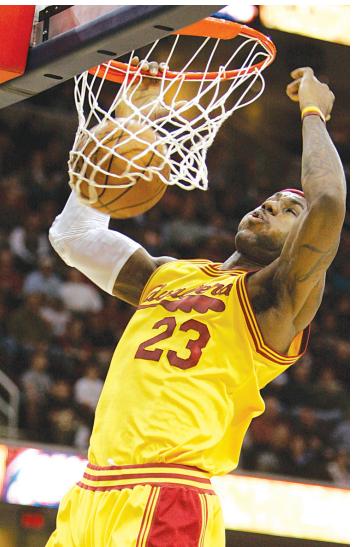
At Columbus, Ohio, Brad Boyes scored twice to help St. Louis win.

Jay McClement also had two goals and Carlo Colaiacovo added two assists for St. Louis, which beat Columbus for the fifth straight time.

Fedor Tyutin had a goal and assist and R.J. Umberger scored for Columbus.

Stars 3, Flames 1

At Dallas, Jere Lehtinen and rookie James Neal scored power-play goals as Dallas beat Calgary to stretch its season-best winning streak to five games. □



Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James dunks against the Toronto Raptors during the first quarter of an NBA basketball game Tuesday, Feb. 3, 2009, in Cleveland.

Associated Press

straight and 11 of 12 games against the Bulls.

Luol Deng scored a season-high 28 and Ben Gordon scored 20 for Chicago, which had a three-game winning streak snapped.

Nets 99, Buck 85

In other NBA games
Tuesday, it was: Boston 100, Philadelphia 99; Minnesota 116, Indiana 111; New Jersey 99, Milwaukee 85; Houston 107, Chicago 100; and Denver 104, San Antonio 96. □

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Las Campeonas 5

Lot: 811 m² / 8,110 sq.ft. Home: 173 m² / 1,861 sq.ft. 2/2

Lovely one story casita with two bedrooms and two bathrooms featuring a spacious living and dining area and an open modern kitchen with all appliances. The master bedroom has a walk in closet and an extended den opening to a fully landscaped backyard with wrap around pergola. Other features include an inner enclosed patio, stacked washer and dryer and a one car garage. **Priced at US\$640,000**



COTTAGE HOMES



Las Campeonas 10

Lot: 984 m² / 10,591 sq.ft. Home: 128 m² / 1,377 sq.ft. 2/2

Two bedroom & 2 bathroom cottage house, comfortably furnished. Landscaped garden and inner patio. The home has central air-conditioning. All appliances and furniture included in the sale.

Priced at US\$500,000

Las Campeonas 25

Lot: 695m² / 7,478 sq.ft. Home: 168m² / 1,808 sq.ft. 3/3

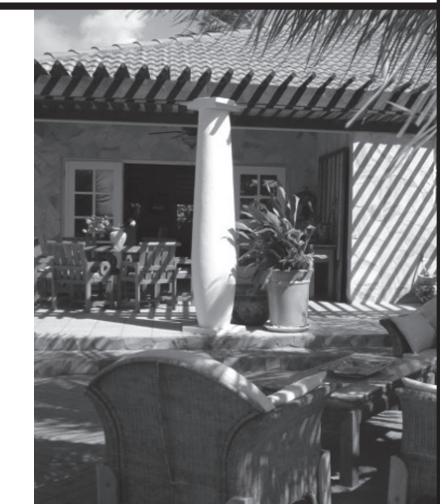
Most charming one story patio home with tropical garden, fully landscaped, salt-system pool and Jacuzzi with wraparound deck.

The master bedroom suite and the guest bedroom suite enjoy spectacular private views of the garden.

The upgraded kitchen with granite counter top, stainless steel appliances and mahogany finished cabinets, enjoys pool and golf course view, complementing the spacious living & dining areas. Ample custom closets and storage, central air-conditioning and ceiling fans.

Furniture and furnishings negotiated separately.

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CONDOS



Miramar • Caya Bista Lama # 26

Lot: 599 m² / 6,448 sq.ft. Home: 161 m² / 1,733 sq.ft. 2/2 1/2

Cozy one story casita, 2 master suit bedrooms, 2 1/2 bathrooms, with living/dining/kitchen area wide open. Includes a one-car garage and separate laundry room. Nicely landscaped, and ready for occupancy.

Priced at US\$699,000



VILLAS



Miramar • Caya di Biento # 3

Lot: 711m² / 7,653 sq.ft. Home: 245.45 m² / 2,642 sq.ft. 3/4

New construction, just-finished home. Two story home, three bedrooms, spectacular terraces, four baths, panoramic views from everywhere, includes all appliances, Italian furnishings, decorations, drip system, pool with infinity edge.

Priced at US\$1,750,000

Las Rocas • Caya Baranca 14D

149 m² / 1,495 sq.ft 3/2

This second story Las Rocas condo has 3-bedrooms and 2 full bathrooms, dining room and terrace, central air conditioning, hot water heater, stacked washer & dryer, pantry, closets and a one car garage with storage room. Enjoys great golf views and nature preserve. **Priced at US\$450,000**



Las Rocas • Caya Baranca 12B

130 m² / 1,400 sq.ft. 3/2 1/2

Comfortable two bedroom, 2 1/2 bathroom townhouse, with kitchen, living room, dining area, walk in closet and beautiful patio overlooking hole #10 downstairs. Two spacious bedrooms, two bathrooms, walk in closets, a terrace, and stacked washer & dryer upstairs. **Priced at US\$330,000**

CUIDA BO OIDO

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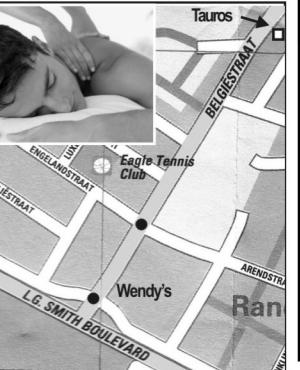
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week#2-17-OccidentalGrand-2Bd Supreme,OceanFront US\$30,000	Week# 7 Aruban Resort - 3Bdr R#2506a, poolv - US\$30,000	week# 8- La Cabana Studio. R#107b,Oceanview- US\$7,500
week#2-17-OccidentalGrand-1B RoyalClubGrandLe.-US\$32,000	Week# 5 - DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr. R#613,PoolOcean-US\$18,000	week# 3 -DiviVillage -studio R#5508,Golfpoolv.-US\$8,000
week#2-17-OccidentalGrand-1B Delux,OceanView- US\$14,000	Week# 6 - The Mill Resort-1Bdr R#220a, Poolview - US\$7,500	week#3-4, DiviPhoenix - 2Bdr R#416,Oceanfrnt-US\$25,000pw
week#2-17-OccidentalGrand-JR. Suite - OceanView - US\$16,000	FloatingW#18-50 Marriott Ocean 2Bdr, Oceanview -US\$ 20,000	week# 4 - DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr R#901- Oceanview-US\$11,000
week# 1-17OccidentalGrand-JR. Suite, Oceanview - US\$13,000	PlatinumW#1-17.Marriott Ocean 1Bdr, OceanView-US\$18,000	week# 4- DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr. R#1001,Oceanv- US\$10,000
week# 1-17OccidentalGrand-EX Studio, PoolView - US\$9,000	PlatinumW#1-17.Marriott Ocean 1Bdr,OceanFront-US\$23,000	week#5-DiviPhoenix-2Bdr/bath. R#206,Oceanfront US\$20,000
week#2,3,4,-LaCabana-1Bdx R#401d,OceanFr.-US\$15,000pw	PlatinumW#1-17.Marriott Ocean 2Bdr,OceanView-US\$26,000	week#6-7-DiviPhoenix - 2Bdr R#302,Oceanfro.-US\$22,000pw
week# 5 & 6-La Cabana - 1Bdr R#401d-OceanFront-US\$18,000	PlatinumW#1-17.Marriott Ocean 2Bdr,OceanFront-US\$60,000	week# 3 - DiviPhoenix - 1Bdr R#209-OceanFront- US\$10,000
week# 6 -DiviPhoenix -1Bdr R#601-Oceanview-US\$10,000	week# 1 -CostaLinda - 2Bdr. R#2031,Ocean/pool-US\$25,000	week# 5 - Aruban Resort - 1-Bdr R#5537g-Poolview-US\$7,000
week# 7 - Renaissance - 1Bdr R#2537, PoolOcean-US\$15,000	week#1 CostaLinda - 2Bdr R#1014,OceanView-US\$24,000	weeks# 8, - La Cabana - 1Bdr R#407a-,Oceanview-US\$9,000
week# 3 & 4-Renaissance.-1Bdr R#2142,Oceanv-US\$13,000pw	week# 6&7,Aruban Resort-1Bdr R#4541 ,Poolview-US\$8,000pw	week#1-2,-3 -DiviLinks - 1Bdr R#4226,Ocean/P-US\$16,000pw
PlatinumW#1-17,Marriott Surf - 3bdr,OceanView -US\$50,000	week# 4, Costa Linda - 2Bdr. R#2012,Oceanview.-US\$24,000	week# 4 - DiviLinks - Studio. R#2108,Poolv - US\$14,000
ForRent: DiviPhoenix week#4&5 2009 R#108,- US\$1,500 perwk	week# 6, Costa Linda - 2 Bdr. R#1010,Oceanview-US\$24,000	week# 4-DiviLinks - 1 Bdr. R#2105,Poolview-US\$16,000
week# 8 , La Cabana -2Bdr R#301e,OceanFront-US\$25,000	week# 5 - Costa Linda - 2 Bdr. R#3004,Ocean/Pool-US\$26,000	week# 5- DiviLinks - Studio R#2214,PoolV. - US\$14,000
week# 2&3, Renaissance-1Bdr. R#2327,POV-US\$13,000(both)	week# 4&5,Costa Linda -2Br 4th floor,OceanP-US\$60,000	week# 4- DiviPhoenix - 2 Bdr R#302,OceanFront-US\$23,000
week# 1,2,3,4 ArubanRes-1Bdr. R#1586,poolview- US\$8,000pw	week# 4 & 5 DiviPhoenix -studio R#108,Oceanfr.-US\$12,000pw	week# 7-DiviPhoenix - studio R#105,OceanPo,US\$11,500
week# 1,2,3,4 ArubanRes-1Bdr. R#3586, poolv- US\$7,000pw	week# 2,Aruban Resort-1 Bdr. R#4584 ,PoolView-US\$8,475	week# 3 - DiviVillage - Studio. R#8303,PoolOcean-US\$8,000
week# 4 Aruban Resort- 2Bdr. R#5510,poolview- US\$12,000	2x week2-17,OccidentalGr-1Bd. supreme,Oceanfr. - US\$35,000	week# 1-RIU Palace - 2Bdr R#269,Oceanfront-US\$18,000
For Rent.ParadiseB- week 4&5 R#108,poolv- US\$1,500pw	week# 2, ParadiseBV - 2Bdr. R# 207,Ocean/Pool-US\$15,000	week# 5&6-La Cabana - 2Bdr R#440b&c,Oce/p-US\$20,000pw
Platinum W#1-17.Marriott Surf. 2Bdr,OceanSide -US\$33,000	week# 3&4, ParadiseB.V - 1Bdr. R#101,Ocean/p-US\$12,000pw	week# 5 - La Cabana -1Br R#336a,Ocean/pool-US\$11,000
Platinum W#1-17.Marriott Surf. 2Bdr,OceanView US\$30,000	week# 4, ParadiseB.V - 2Bdr. R#129,Oceanfront - US\$24,000	week#11,Dutchvillage- 2Bdr R#46&49,PoolV US\$18,000pw
Week# 7,La Cabana - 1Bdr. Room#339,OceanFr-US\$8,000	week#8 ,Aruban Resort - 1Bdr. R#1537, Poolview - US\$9,000	For rent: week 8, Renaissance- R#2536,1Br-OceanV-US\$1,500
Week# 7, La Cabana - 1Bdr Room#429c,OceanVi-US\$9,000	week# 8&9,Aruban Resort,-1Bdr R#1519, Poolv- US\$18,000 p.w.	week#10.DutchVillage-1Bdr R#121,Poolview-US\$8,000

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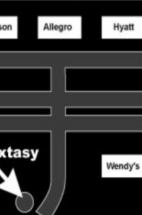


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Misión humanitaria llega a sur de Colombia a recibir a político secuestrado por la FARC



El presidente colombiano, Alvaro Uribe, habla con el ex rehén de las Farc Alan Jara en Villavicencio, 3 feb 2009. La misión de delegados del Comité Internacional de la Cruz Roja (CICR) liderada por la senadora Piedad Córdoba llegó a la ciudad de Cali, la capital del departamento del Valle, en dos helicópteros brasileños, uno de los cuales partirá el jueves para recibir en la jungla al ex diputado Sigifredo López. REUTERS/Miguel Angel Solano/Presidencia

BOGOTA (Reuters) - Una misión humanitaria apoyada por Brasil llegó el miércoles al suroeste de Colombia para recibir en la selva a un político secuestrado por las FARC, en la última parte de una operación que previamente permitió el regreso a la libertad de cinco rehenes.

La misión de delegados del

Comité Internacional de la Cruz Roja (CICR) liderada por la senadora Piedad Córdoba llegó a la ciudad de Cali, la capital del departamento del Valle, en dos helicópteros brasileños, uno de los cuales partirá el jueves para recibir en la jungla al ex diputado Sigifredo López.

López, un abogado de 45 años,

fue secuestrado por las Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia (FARC) en abril del 2002 cuando un comando rebelde que se hizo pasar por efectivos de la Policía y el Ejército secuestró a 12 diputados en pleno centro de Cali.

El político, cautivo desde hace casi siete años, fue el

Lanzan bombas lacrimógenas en Nunciatura

CARACAS (AP) - Tres bombas lacrimógenas fueron lanzadas el miércoles contra la sede de la Nunciatura Apostólica en la capital venezolana, lo que constituye el segundo ataque de ese tipo que sufre la representación diplomática en menos de un mes. La Embajada de la Santa Sede dijo el

miércoles en un comunicado que dos hombres, que se trasladaban en motocicleta, lanzaron tres bombas lacrimógenas "de las cuales dos cayeron y explotaron en la parte externa del recinto y la tercera que cayó y explotó en el patio interior de la sede diplomática". □

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único de los 12 rehenes que sobrevivió a una masacre de las FARC en junio del 2007 cuando, según el Gobierno, un error de comunicaciones entre dos comandos rebeldes provocó un combate en medio del que fueron asesinados los políticos.

Previamente la misión humanitaria recibió en la selva del sur del país a tres policías y un soldado, y mas recientemente, el martes, al ex gobernador del departamento del Meta Alan Jara.

López será el último de los seis rehenes que la guerrilla se comprometió en diciembre pasado a liberar de manera unilateral, en lo que dijo era

un gesto de paz con el que busca facilitar un acuerdo de intercambio de secuestrados por rebeldes presos en las cárceles de Colombia.

Cuando culmine la entrega quedarán en poder de las FARC 22 rehenes por motivos políticos, todos efectivos de Ejército y de la Policía con rango y mando de tropa.

Al igual que en las entregas anteriores, el Gobierno suspenderá operaciones militares en la zona de la liberación y se comprometió a ofrecer todas las garantías de seguridad. "Están dadas todas las garantías. Cada vez que el Gobierno ha dado la palabra lo ha cumplido", dijo Uribe. □

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